# IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

ANTOINE B. SHARP,	)		
Plaintiff,	) ) )		
VS.	)	Case No.:	
CVS HEALTH SOLUTIONS, LLC,	)		
Defendant.	)		

#### **NOTICE OF REMOVAL**

Defendant Missouri CVS Pharmacy, L.L.C. d/b/a CVS Pharmacy, ("CVS" or "Defendant"), improperly identified as "CVS Health Solutions, LLC" in Plaintiff's Amended Complaint, hereby removes the above-captioned action, which is currently pending in the Twenty-First Judicial Circuit Court of St. Louis County Missouri, to the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Missouri. This removal is based upon diversity jurisdiction pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1332, 1441 and 1446. In support of its Notice of Removal, CVS states the following:

#### **The State Court Action**

- 1. On or about November 30, 2021, *pro se* Plaintiff Antoine B. Sharp ("Plaintiff") filed a lawsuit in the Twenty-First Judicial Circuit Court of St. Louis County, Missouri, entitled *Antoine B. Sharp v. CVS*, Case No. 21SL-CC05713 ("Original Complaint"). On December 8, 2021, Plaintiff filed an Amended Complaint purportedly changing the name and address of Defendant to "CVS Health Solutions, LLC." Plaintiff's Amended Complaint was served upon CVS on December 10, 2021. (See Summons, Original and Amended Complaint, State Court File, attached as **Exhibit A**).
- 2. Plaintiff's lawsuit alleges CVS knew or should have known Plaintiff was experiencing race and color discrimination and harassment in his employment and violated the

Missouri Human Rights Act, Mo. Rev. Stat. § 213.010 ("MHRA") by failing to take any remedial action and end the discrimination and harassment. (**Exhibit A**, Original Complaint, ¶¶ 6-7).

3. Although Plaintiff's Original and Amended Complaints incorrectly identify his employer as "CVS" or "CVS Health Solutions, LLC," Plaintiff's proper employer is Missouri CVS Pharmacy L.L.C. d/b/a CVS Pharmacy.

#### **Venue**

- 4. The United States Supreme Court has held, under 28 U.S.C. 1446(a), a defendant seeking to remove a case to federal court need only file "a notice of removal 'containing a short and plain statement of the grounds for removal." *Owens v. Dart Cherokee Basin Operating Co.*, LLC, 135 S. Ct. 547, 551 (2014). This language "tracks the general pleading requirement stated in Rule 8(a) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure" and "[a] statement 'short and plain' need not contain evidentiary submissions." *Id.* at 553.
- 5. This action was filed in the Twenty-First Judicial Circuit Court of St. Louis County, Missouri which lies within the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Missouri and thus, this Court is the proper venue for removal pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1441 and 28 U.S.C. § 1146(a).

#### **Diversity of Citizenship Jurisdiction**

- 6. This Court has original jurisdiction over this action pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1332 because it is a civil action between citizens of different states and the amount in controversy exceeds \$75,000, exclusive of interests and costs.
- 7. For diversity jurisdiction, there must be complete diversity between the parties, which means no plaintiff may be a citizen of the same state as any defendant. 28 U.S.C.

1332(a)(1); Lincoln Prop. Co. v. Roche, 546 U.S. 81, 89 (2005); Junk v. Terminix Int'l Co., 628 F.3d 439, 445 (8th Cir. 2010).

- 8. For diversity purposes, "the terms 'domicile' and 'citizenship' are synonymous" and mean the State where an individual is physically present and intends to make his or her home indefinitely. *Yeldell v. Tutt*, 913 F.2d 533, 537 (8th Cir. 1990). "The place where a [person] lives is properly taken to be [the] domicile until facts adduced establish the contrary." *Dist. of Columbia v. Murphy*, 314 U.S. 441, 455 (1941).
- 9. Plaintiff admits he is a resident of the State of Missouri. (**Exhibit A**, Original Complaint, ¶ 1). Therefore, Plaintiff is a citizen of Missouri.
- 10. A limited liability company is deemed to be a citizen of the states in which its members are citizens. *OnePoint Solutions, LLC v. Borchert*, 486 F.3d 342, 346 (8th Cir. 2007). Missouri CVS Pharmacy, L.L.C.'s sole member is CVS Pharmacy, Inc.
- 11. A corporation is deemed to be a citizen of the state in which it has been incorporated and the state containing its principal place of business. 28 U.S.C. 1332(c)(1).
- 12. Plaintiff admits Defendant is a foreign corporation doing business in Missouri. (Exhibit A, Original Complaint, ¶ 2)
- 13. CVS Pharmacy, Inc. is incorporated under the laws of the state of Rhode Island and its principal place of business is in Woonsocket, Rhode Island.
- 14. CVS Pharmacy, Inc.'s headquarters, including its principal executive and administrative offices, are located in Woonsocket, Rhode Island and have been since before the filing of this lawsuit on November 30, 2021. The majority of CVS Pharmacy, Inc.'s corporate officers and senior executives whom direct, control, and coordinate its operations are also located at its corporate headquarters in Woonsocket, Rhode Island. As a result, nearly all of CVS

Pharmacy, Inc.'s corporate decisions are made in Rhode Island, including operational, executive, administrative, and policymaking decisions. Thus, Missouri CVS Pharmacy, L.L.C. is a citizen of Rhode Island.

- 15. As both parties are citizens of different states, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1332(a)(1), complete diversity exists at the time of filing this Notice of Removal.
- 16. Diversity jurisdiction pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1332(a) also requires the amount in controversy, exclusive of interest and costs, to be in excess of \$75,000.
- 17. The burden is on the removing party to prove by a preponderance of the evidence that the amount in controversy exceeds \$75,000. *In re Minnesota Mut. Life Ins. Co. Sales Practices Litig.*, 346 F.3d 830, 834 (8th Cir. 2003).
- 18. Where removal is based on diversity of citizenship, "the notice of removal may assert the amount in controversy," and a removing defendant need only establish it is more likely than not that the amount in controversy exceeds the jurisdictional minimum of \$75,000. 28 U.S.C. § 1446(a); see also Dart Cherokee Basin Operating Co., LLC v. Owens, 135 S. Ct. 547, 554 (2014) ("[A]s specified in § 1446(a), a defendant's notice of removal need include only a plausible allegation that the amount in controversy exceeds the jurisdictional threshold").
- 19. Despite Plaintiff's assertion the amount in controversy does not exceed \$60,000, the amount in controversy requirement is easily satisfied by Plaintiff's own allegations. Plaintiff is seeking damages in the form of lost wages and benefits, "garden variety" mental anguish, punitive damages, and attorneys' fees. (**Exhibit A**, Original Complaint, ¶¶ 8-10).
- 20. Lost wages are recoverable under the MHRA, which Plaintiff seeks. *See* Mo. REV. STAT. § 213.111; *see also* **Exhibit A**, Original Complaint, ¶ 8. At the time Plaintiff filed his lawsuit, Plaintiff was earning \$13.00 per hour. (**Exhibit B**, Declaration of B. Carbajal, ¶ 7). The

earliest this case is likely to proceed to trial is July 2023 if assigned to Track 2. Plaintiff's alleged lost wages through trial would be approximately \$37,440.00 (\$13.00/hr. x. 40 hrs. x 72 weeks).

- 21. In addition to compensatory damages, Plaintiff also seeks emotional distress damages, which are available under the MHRA. Emotional distress awards for MHRA violations can be significant and should be considered when determining the amount in controversy. *Kopp v. Kopp,* 280 F.3d 883, 885-85 (8th Cir. 2002); see also *Diaz v. Autozoners, LLC*, 484 S.W.3d 64, 87 (Mo. Ct. App. E.D. 2015) (affirming emotional damages award under the MHRA for \$75,000); *Waller v. Blast Fitness Group*, LLC, 2017 WL 6731721 \*2 (E.D. Mo. December 29, 2017) (awarding an additional \$45,000 in emotional damages for violation of MHRA).
- 22. Furthermore, Plaintiff seeks punitive damages, which are available under the MHRA and also may be considered in determining the amount in controversy. Satisfying the amount in controversy requirement is even more likely when taking into account punitive damages. *Crawford v. F. Hoffman-La Roche Ltd.*, 267 F.3d 760 (8th Cir. 2001) ("Punitive damages, of course, may be used to establish diversity jurisdiction"); *see also H.S. v. Board of Regents, Southeast Missouri State University*, 967 S.W.2d 665, 673 (Mo. App. E.D. 1998) (affirming jury award of punitive damages in the amount of \$100,000); *Wilkins v. Board of Regents of Harris-Stowe State University*, 519 S.W.3d 526 (Mo. Ct. App. E.D. 2017) (affirming award of punitive damages totaling \$3,500,000).
- 23. Plaintiff also seeks recovery for attorneys' fees. While currently *pro se*, if Plaintiff seeks legal representation during his lawsuit and prevails on his claims, he will be entitled to reasonable attorneys' fees as provided for by the MHRA. Statutory attorneys' fees count toward the jurisdictional minimum for diversity jurisdiction. *Crawford v. F. Hoffman La Roche*, 267 F.3d 760, 766 (8th Cir. 2001). Missouri courts routinely award attorneys' fees significantly in excess

of \$75,000 – on their own. *See, e.g., Trickey v. Kaman Inds. Tech. Corp.*, 705 F.3d 788, 798 (8th Cir. 2013) (affirming the district court's attorneys' fees award of \$201,375.50).

- 24. Based on the foregoing alone, the amount in controversy requirement for diversity jurisdiction is satisfied.
  - 25. However, Plaintiff seeks the additional, unconventional damages below:
    - (a) the demolition of Old Jamestown Mall "to ensure success of the land being donated to the Corporation for redevelopment as an Education & Entertainment Smart Sustainable Hub;
    - (b) "Fund costs of Architects/Architecture Drawings to outline the Redevelopment of the site;"
    - (c) "Purchase/Donate/Sponsor Racing Car Simulators & Official Car to be wrapped in CVS name to be driven by Competition Winner @ Worldwide Raceway;"
    - (d) "Purchase the Bingham Court Apartments,<sup>1</sup> 3537 Bingham Avenue, St. Louis, MO to be donated to the Corporation, to provide Students and Families with affordable housing . . .;"
    - (e) "Negotiate naming rights for arenas and dorms;" and
    - (f) "Cover Costs for Long-term care for my mom, whom suffered a stroke due to my depression, anxiety and mental anguish." (**Exhibit A**, Original Complaint, ¶ 8).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Although the value of Bingham Court Apartments could not be ascertained, neighboring homes in the area exceed \$100,000 in value accordingly to a Zillow estimate.

26. Plaintiff's assertion his damages do not exceed \$60,000 is belied not only by his request for traditional damages, but also his request for unconventional damages, whose value easily exceeds the statutory requirement.<sup>2</sup> Accordingly, the amount in controversy threshold is met.

### **Compliance with Procedural Requirements**

- 27. A Civil Cover Sheet and Disclosure of Corporate Interests for Defendant is filed with this Notice.
- 28. Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1446(d), Defendant is filing today a Notice to the Circuit Clerk with the Clerk of the Twenty-First Judicial Circuit Court of Missouri.
- 29. Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1446(d), Defendant is mailing today a Notice to Plaintiff, stating a Notice of Removal to the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Missouri was filed, and serving a copy of this Notice of Removal upon Plaintiff.

WHEREFORE, Defendant respectfully requests this action, now pending in the Twenty-First Judicial Circuit Court, St. Louis County, Missouri, be removed to the United States District Court for Eastern District of Missouri.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Plaintiff's request for the demolition of the Jamestown mall alone is estimated to exceed over \$10 million. *See* https://www.stltoday.com/business/local/reimagine-st-louis-county-to-spend-millions-to-demolish-jamestown-mall-vows-to-attract-new/article 3950d4df-071d-592d-b693-211b3bbd56d9.html

#### Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Joseph M. Wientge, Jr.

Joseph M. Wientge, Jr. #57494MO jwientge@littler.com Benjamin R. Marble #69207MO bmarble@littler.com LITTLER MENDELSON, P.C. 600 Washington Avenue Suite 900 St. Louis, MO 63101 Telephone: 314.659.2000

Telephone: 314.659.2000 Facsimile: 314.558.3966

Attorneys for Defendant

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on the 7th day of January 2022, I electronically filed the foregoing with the Clerk of Court using the CM/ECF system and sent a copy via U.S. Mail to the following:

Antoine B. Sharp 3148 Michigan Ave St. Louis, MO 63118

Pro se Plaintiff

/s/ Joseph M. Wientge, Jr.

4890-9075-6360.2 / 090142-1350



Ascending

12/14/2021	Notice NOTICE OF RETURN ITEM
12/08/2021	☐ Judge/Clerk - Note
	SERVICE PAPERS MAILED TO PLTP ALONG WITH INSTRUCTIONS FOR OBTAINING SERVICE BY SPS.
	☐ Summons Issued-Circuit
	Document ID: 21-SMCC-11039, for CVS HEALTH SOLUTIONS LLC.
	Motion Special Process Server
	☐ Filing:
	SERVICE INSTRUCTIONS FILED.
	Amended Motion/Petition Filed
12/01/2021	☐ <u>Filing:</u>
	SERVICE INSTRUCTIONS FILED.
	☐ Confid Filing Info Sheet Filed
	Pet Filed in Circuit Ct
	☐ Judge Assigned
	DIV 6

Return to Top of Page

**EXHIBIT A** 

Case net Version 5.14.44

Released 12/22/2021

# IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ST. LOUIS COUNTY RECEIVED STATE OF MISSOURI

NOV 3 0 2021

ANTOINE B. SHARP,

JOAN M. GILMER CIRCUIT CLERK, ST. LOUIS COUNTY

Plaintiff,

Cause No. 218LCC 06713

Division No. / 2

**CVS** 

v.

Defendant

JURY TRIAL DEMANDED

Serve: Registered Agent
Kimberly Lawrence
VP & Sr. Legal Counsel
1 CVS Drive
Woonsocket, RI 02895

#### **PETITION**

COMES NOW Plaintiff, Antoine B. Sharp, by and through counsel, and for his claim against Defendant, CVS states as follows:

- 1. Plaintiff is a resident of St. louis, Missouri.
- 2. Defendant is a foreign corporation doing business in Missouri and the claim arose in St. Louis City, Missouri.
- 3. Venue is proper pursuant to R.S.Mo. § 508.010.4.
- 4. Defendant is an employer within the meaning of the Missouri Human Rights Act, R.S.Mo. § 213.010(7) in that Defendant employs six (6) or more persons in the State of Missouri.
- 5. This case arises under the Missouri Human Rights Act, R.S.Mo. § 213.010 et seq., (MHRA), and Plaintiff has dutifully filed his Charge of Race discrimination with the Missouri Commission on Human Rights (MCHR) and the Equal Employment Opportunity

- Commission (EEOC) Charge Number 560-2021-00744 and received "right to sue letter" from the EEOC thereby exhausting his administrative remedies.
- 6. Defendant knew or should have known that Plaintiff was experiencing race and color discrimination and harassment which impeded his ability to perform his job required duties.
- 7. That Defendant intentionally engaged in an unlawful employment practice in violation of the MHRA by failing to end the race and color discrimination and harassment Plaintiff was subjected to.
- 8. As a direct and proximate result of Defendant's failure to end the race and color discrimination, Plaintiff has suffered lost wages and benefits, and "garden variety" mental anguish, all to Plaintiff's damages not in excess of \$60,000.00, In addition, become Sponsor for Corporation that will exhibit Diversity & Inclusion through, Education & Entertainment in the Esports, Drone, VR, STEM & Non-Traditional Education, for Black, Brown & Low-income Whites, to become prepared for the future and help fill the Wealth Gap.
  - Collaborate w/ St. Louis Councilwoman (Shalonda Webb), for the demolition of the Old Jamestown Mall, 175 Jamestown Mall, St. Louis, County, MO, 63034, to ensure success of the land being donated to the Corporation for redevelopment as an Education & Entertainment Smart Sustainable Hub, in Development Partnership w/ The Sifi Network & Worldwide Technology, as the North County Campus.
  - 2. Fund cost of Architects/Architecture Drawings to outline the Redevelopment of the site.

- Purchase/Donate/Sponsor Racing Car Simulators & Official Car to be wrapped in CVS Name to be driven by Competition Winner @ Worldwide Raceway, from D3Esports.
- 4. Purchase the Bingham Court Apartments, 3537 Bingham Avenue, St. Louis, MO, 63111, to be donated to the Corporation, to provide Students & Families w/Affordable Housing and convenience to the adjacent South City Campus @ The Old Cleveland High School, 4352 Louisiana Avenue, St. Louis, MO, 63111, in which negotiations are ongoing for the donation of the building.
- 5. Fund cost of Architects/Architecture Drawings to outline the Redevelopment of the Apartment Complex & School.
- 6. Negotiate Naming Rights for Arenas & Dorms.
- 7. Cover Cost for Long-Term Care for my Mom, whom suffered a stroke due to my depression, anxiety and mental anguish.
- 9. That Defendant's conduct as described herein was intentional, willful, wanton, malicious and/or outrageous because of their evil motive and/or reckless indifference to the rights of Plaintiff under the MHRA, entitling Plaintiff to punitive damages.
- 10. As a result of Defendant's unlawful employment practices, Plaintiff has incurred and will continue to incur reasonable attorney's fees and costs in connection with this matter.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff respectfully prays that this Court, after a trial by jury, find that Defendant engaged in an unlawful employment practice under the laws of the State of Missouri and grant Plaintiff judgment against Defendant not in excess of \$60,000.00; order Defendant to pay all costs of this suit including reasonable attorney fees; and grant any further relief this Court deems just and proper.

Respectfully submitted,

 $\mathbf{B}\mathbf{y}$ 

Antoine B. Sharp 3148 Michigan Avenue St. Louis, MO 63118 (314) 703-1283

Devona L. Rosers Devona L. Rosers

Iamantoinesharp1st@gmail.com

DEVONA L. ROGERS Notary Public - Notary Seal St. Louis City - State of Missouri Commission Number 14947495 My Commission Expires Oct 22, 2022



## IN THE 21ST JUDICIAL CIRCUIT BUILDING, CLAYTON, MO 63105

ST LOUIS COUNTY COURT

Payor: ANTOINE B SHARP 3148 MICHIGAN AVENUE SAINT LOUIS, MO 63118

Receipt Date:

Time Printed:

Receipt Number: Date Printed:

01-Dec-2021 21SL4970524

01-Dec-2021 02:44 PM

\*\*RECEIPT

Case Number: 21SL-CC05713 - ANTOINE B SHARP V CVS

Pet Filed in Circuit Ct Pet Filed in Circuit Ct Pet Filed in Circuit Ct

Case Balance Due prior to receipt: \$105.50 Law Library: \$20.00 Dom Viol-Circuit Civil: -\$2.00 Circuit Civil Costs w/o SRF: \$83.50 \$0.00

Remaining Case Balance Due:

Payment Types Applied to Case(s) **Amount** Check 1002: -\$105.50

Total Payment(s):

\$105.50

Remaining Balance Due for Cases Listed Above:

\$0.00

Note: Information shown on receipt is current as of date printed.

Case Information for Case(s) Listed Above:

Case Number: 21SL-CC05713 - ANTOINE B SHARP V CVS

Party: SHARP ANTOINE B

Party: CVS

CIRCUIT COURT
OF SAINT LOUIS COUNTY MISSOURI



For File Stamp Only

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ANTOINE	. B Grace
Plaintiff(s)	
vs.	

Defendant(s)

11303631 Date 305005713 Case Number RECEIVED

NOV 3 0 2021

JOAN M. GILMER CIRCUIT CLERK, ST. LOUIS COUNTY

#### SERVICE INSTRUCTIONS

Division

Address:	•
Defendant Name:Address:City, State, & ZIP:	
City, State, & ZIP:	
City, State, & ZIP:	
Defendant Name:	
Address:	
City, State, & ZIP:	
ANTOINE Sharp	
Plaintiff(s)/Attorney Bar N 3148 Michigan Ave	<del></del>
H.L.SUIS, MO 83118	
(314) 783-1283 Phone Number	

IN THE	e é e
CIRCUIT COURT	For File Stamp Only
OF SAINT LOUIS COUNTY, MISSOURI	FILED
ANTOINE B. Sharp 12/08/2	
Plaintiff(s)  Date	250 00 5051
VS.	JOAN M. GILMER CIRCUIT CLERK, ST. LOUIS COUNTY
Case Number	
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Subscribed and sworn to before me this 8 TH	Commission #11276017
day or December	
Donna Jean Bolger Notary Public	400
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Judge (211) and	2-1106
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In the CIRCUIT COURT Of St. Louis County, Missouri ANDINE B. Sharp Plaintiff/Petitioner	For File Stamp Only  Part of the Stamp Only  Date  Part of the Stamp Only  Part of the Stamp Only  Part of the Stamp Only  Date
vs.  CUS  Defendant/Respondent  REQUEST FOR A PROIN	DEC 08 2021  JOAN M. GILMER CIRCUIT CLERK, ST. LOUIS COUNTY  L  ITMENT OF PROCESS SERVER
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SERVE:	SERVE:
Name	Name
Address City/State/Zip	Address City/State/Zip
Appointed as requested:  JOAN M. GILMER, Circuit Clerk  By  Deputy Clerk  Date	Attorney/Plaintiff/Petitioner  BarNo. 48 MICHIGAN AVE STANIS MO  Address Phone No.  Fax No.

CCADM62 Rev. 03/06

WHITE - File

YELLOW-Special Process Server

PINK - Attorney/Petitioner

#### Local Rule 28. SPECIAL PROCESS SERVERS

(1) Any judge may appoint a Special Process Server in writing in accordance with the law and at the risk and expense of the requesting party.

This appointment as Special Process Server does not include the authorization to carry a concealed weapon in the performance thereof.

- (2) The Circuit Clerk may appoint a natural person other than the Sheriff to serve process in any cause in accordance with this subsection;
  - (A) Appointments may list more than one server as alternates.
- (B) The appointment of a person other than the Sheriff to serve process shall be made at the risk and expense of the requesting party.
- (C) Any person of lawful age, other than the Sheriff, appointed to serve process shall be a natural person and not a corporation or other business association.
- (D) No person, other than the Sheriff, shall be appointed to serve any order, writ or other process which requires any levy, seizure, sequestration, garnishment, or other taking.
- (E) Requests for appointment of a person other than the Sheriff to serve process shall be made on a "Request for Appointment of Process Server" form which may be obtained from the Office of the Circuit Clerk.
- (F) This appointment as Special Process Server does not include the authorization to carry a concealed weapon in the performance thereof.

IN THE	STITE CHECK	r "	
CIRCUIT COURT		. For File Stamp Only	
OF SAINT LOUIS COUNTY, MISSOURI	ON COUNTRY WEST	FILED	,
ANTOINE B. Sharp		DEC 08 2021	
Plaintiff(s)	Date		
VS.	Case Number	JOAN M. GILMER CIRCUIT CLERK, ST. LOUIS COUNTY	
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Defendant(s)	Division	<u> </u>	•
SERVIC	E INSTRUCTIONS		
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#### IN THE 21ST JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COURT, ST. LOUIS COUNTY, MISSOURI

Judge or Division:	Case Number: 21SL-CC05713
JOHN N. BORBONUS III	
Plaintiff/Petitioner:	Plaintiff's/Petitioner's Attorney/Address
ANTOINE B SHARP	ANTOINE B SHARP
	3148 MICHIGAN AVENUE
vs.	SAINT LOUIS, MO 63118
Defendant/Respondent:	Court Address:
CVS HEALTH SOLUTIONS LLC	ST LOUIS COUNTY COURT BUILDING
DBA: CVS	105 SOUTH CENTRAL AVENUE
Nature of Suit:	CLAYTON, MO 63105
CC Employment Discremente 213 111	

(Date File Stamp)

#### **Summons in Civil Case**

The State of Missouri to: CVS HEALTH SOLUTIONS LLC

Alias: DBA: CVS

C/O R/A CT CORPORATION

120 S CENTRAL CLAYTON, MO 63105

**COURT SEAL OF** 



ST. LOUIS COUNTY

You are summoned to appear before this court and to file your pleading to the petition, a copy of which is attached, and to serve a copy of your pleading upon the attorney for Plaintiff/Petitioner at the above address all within 30 days after receiving this summons, exclusive of the day of service. If you fail to file your pleading, judgment by default may be taken against you for the relief demanded in the petition.

SPECIAL NEEDS: If you have special needs addressed by the Americans With Disabilities Act, please notify the Office of the Circuit Clerk at 314-615-8029, FAX 314-615-8739, email at SLCADA@courts.mo.gov, or through Relay Missouri by dialing 711 or 800-735-2966, at least three business days in advance of the court proceeding.

08-DEC-2021

Date

**Further Information:** 

 $\mathbf{C}\mathbf{G}$ 

	Sheriff's or Server's Return		
Note to serving offi	cer: Summons should be returned to the court within thirty days after	er the date of issue.	
I certify that I have	served the above summons by: (check one)		
	y of the summons and a copy of the petition to the Defendant/Responding the summons and a copy of the petition at the dwelling place or usual		nt with
-	a person at least 18 years of	f age residing therein.	
(for service on a	corporation) delivering a copy of the summons and a copy of the pe	tition to	
	(name)		(title).
other			
			(address)
in	(County/City of St. Louis), MO, on	(date) at	(time)
Printe	d Name of Sheriff or Server	Signature of Sheriff or Serve	<u> </u>
	Must be sworn before a notary public if not served by an	n authorized officer:	
(Seal) Subscribed and sworn to before me on		(date).	
(Sear)	My commission expires:		
	Date	Notary Publ	ic

#### CaSæse:24-22/-00002929DPDoDot: #:-14-Filedled1/007/27/212agege6 24 b9 372agedge #D 244 62 THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ST. LOUIS COUNTY, MISSOURI

Twenty First Judicial Circuit

#### NOTICE OF ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION SERVICES

#### **Purpose of Notice**

As a party to a lawsuit in this court, you have the right to have a judge or jury decide your case. However, most lawsuits are settled by the parties before a trial takes place. This is often true even when the parties initially believe that settlement is not possible. A settlement reduces the expense and inconvenience of litigation. It also eliminates any uncertainty about the results of a trial.

Alternative dispute resolution services and procedures are available that may help the parties settle their lawsuit faster and at less cost. Often such services are most effective in reducing costs if used early in the course of a lawsuit. Your attorney can aid you in deciding whether and when such services would be helpful in your case.

#### Your Rights and Obligations in Court Are Not Affected By This Notice

You may decide to use an alternative dispute resolution procedure if the other parties to your case agree to do so. In some circumstances, a judge of this court may refer your case to an alternative dispute resolution procedure described below. These procedures are not a substitute for the services of a lawyer and consultation with a lawyer is recommended. Because you are a party to a lawsuit, you have obligations and deadlines which must be followed whether you use an alternative dispute resolution procedure or not. IF YOU HAVE BEEN SERVED WITH A PETITION, YOU MUST FILE A RESPONSE ON TIME TO AVOID THE RISK OF DEFAULT JUDGMENT, WHETHER OR NOT YOU CHOOSE TO PURSUE AN ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION PROCEDURE.

#### **Alternative Dispute Resolution Procedures**

There are several procedures designed to help parties settle lawsuits. Most of these procedures involve the services of a neutral third party, often referred to as the "neutral," who is trained in dispute resolution and is not partial to any party. The services are provided by individuals and organizations who may charge a fee for this help. Some of the recognized alternative dispute resolutions procedures are:

- (1) <u>Advisory Arbitration:</u> A procedure in which a neutral person or persons (typically one person or a panel of three persons) hears both sides and decides the case. The arbitrator's decision is not binding and simply serves to guide the parties in trying to settle their lawsuit. An arbitration is typically less formal than a trial, is usually shorter, and may be conducted in a private setting at a time mutually agreeable to the parties. The parties, by agreement, may select the arbitrator(s) and determine the rules under which the arbitration will be conducted.
- (2) <u>Mediation:</u> A process in which a neutral third party facilitates communication between the parties to promote settlement. An effective mediator may offer solutions that have not been considered by the parties or their lawyers. A mediator may not impose his or her own judgment on the issues for that of the parties.

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Case:se::22-22-00-029-29DPDob.otc: #1:-14-FileFileO11/001//272/22Pappe725609372appe102563

- (3) <u>Early Neutral Evaluation ("ENE"):</u> A process designed to bring the parties to the litigation and their counsel together in the early pretrial period to present case summaries before and receive a non-binding assessment from an experienced neutral evaluator. The objective is to promote early and meaningful communication concerning disputes, enabling parties to plan their cases effectively and assess realistically the relative strengths and weaknesses of their positions. While this confidential environment provides an opportunity to negotiate a resolution, immediate settlement is not the primary purpose of this process.
- (4) Mini-Trial: A process in which each party and their counsel present their case before a selected representative for each party and a neutral third party, to define the issues and develop a basis for realistic settlement negotiations. The neutral third party may issue an advisory opinion regarding the merits of the case. The advisory opinion is not binding.
- (5) Summary Jury Trial: A summary jury trial is a non binding, informal settlement process in which jurors hear abbreviated case presentations. A judge or neutral presides over the hearing, but there are no witnesses and the rules of evidence are relaxed. After the "trial", the jurors retire to deliberate and then deliver an advisory verdict. The verdict then becomes the starting point for settlement negotiations among the parties.

#### Selecting an Alternative Dispute Resolution Procedure and a Neutral

If the parties agree to use an alternative dispute resolution procedure, they must decide what type of procedure to use and the identity of the neutral. As a public service, the St. Louis County Circuit Clerk maintains a list of persons who are available to serve as neutrals. The list contains the names of individuals who have met qualifications established by the Missouri Supreme Court and have asked to be on the list. The Circuit Clerk also has Neutral Qualifications Forms on file. These forms have been submitted by the neutrals on the list and provide information on their background and expertise. They also indicate the types of alternative dispute resolution services each neutral provides.

A copy of the list may be obtained by request in person and in writing to: Circuit Clerk, Office of Dispute Resolution Services, 105 South Central Ave., 5th Floor, Clayton, Missouri 63105. The Neutral Qualifications Forms will also be made available for inspection upon request to the Circuit Clerk.

The List and Neutral Qualification Forms are provided only as a convenience to the parties in selecting a neutral. The court cannot advise you on legal matters and can only provide you with the List and Forms. You should ask your lawyer for further information.

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# County Satellite Court Now Open in St. Ann Hours: Mon-Fri 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. FREE PARKING

For the convenience of North County residents, a satellite branch of the St. Louis County Circuit Court is now open at the St. Louis County Government Center Northwest at the 715 Northwest Plaza Drive in St. Ann.

### **Attending Court Hearings Remotely using E-Courts**

If you are scheduled to appear in court, you can access the courtroom remotely using the public computer stations (E-courts) in St. Ann and Clayton. These are available for use when courtroom access is restricted due to the pandemic.

**Please note:** Hearings for juvenile and paternity cases are confidential, and can only be accessed from the Clayton E-court at this time.

Be sure to bring your paperwork with you; you will need your case number, as well as the date, time and number of the Division where you are scheduled to appear.

#### Filing Pleadings/New Petitions

If you are representing yourself, you may file your paperwork at the St. Ann satellite court, in addition to the Clayton courthouse, using the secure drop box located inside the Court reception area.

## Filing Orders of Protection

Starting March 1, you may file for an Order of Protection at the Adult Abuse office in the St. Ann satellite court, in addition to the Clayton courthouse. Clerks will be available on-site to help you fill out and file the necessary paperwork.

For more information call: 314-615-8029



#### STLCO CIRCUIT CLERK'S OFFICE

P.O. BOX 16994 Clayton, Missouri 63105 (314) 615-8032

#### **NOTICE OF RETURN ITEMS(S)**

Case ID: 21SL-CC05713

Dec 16, 2021



DEC 1 6 2021

TO:

ANTOINE B SHARP,

3148 MICHIGAN AVENUE SAINT LOUIS MO 63118 JOAN M. GILMER CIRCUIT CLERK, ST. LOUIS COUNTY

Date	Dec 16, 2021 2:09:27 PM	Description		Amount
		COURT COST DUE		\$105.50
		BAD CHECK FEE		<u>\$25.00</u>
		·	Total Amount Due	\$130.50

RETURN CHECK FEE

Your check made payable to the St. Louis County Circuit Clerk in the amount of \$105.50 has been returned to our office. The bank will not allow us to redeposit the check.

Would you please send the amount of the check, plus the fee for our service charge for returned checks, to our office at the above address.

If you have any questions, you can contact our office at the above telephone number.

Sincerely,

Circuit Clerk Accounting Department

Thank You

# IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

ANTOINE B. SHARP,	)		
Plaintiff,	)		
vs.	)	Case No.:	
CVS HEALTH SOLUTIONS, LLC,	)		
Defendant.	)		
	)		

# DECLARATION OF BENJAMIN CARBAJAL IN SUPPORT OF DEFENDANT'S NOTICE REMOVAL

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746, Benjamin Carbajal declares as follows:

- 1. I am currently a Senior Advice and Counsel Manager for CVS Pharmacy, Inc. I am submitting this declaration in support of Defendant's Notice of Removal. I have personal knowledge of the facts set forth below, or knowledge based upon review of corporate records maintained in the regular course of the company's business. I am over the age of eighteen years old and am competent to testify to the facts set forth below.
- 2. In my capacity as a Senior Advice and Counsel Manager for CVS Pharmacy, Inc., my responsibilities include, in part, conducting investigations on behalf of the Human Resources Department for CVS Pharmacy, Inc. In order to gather information for my investigations, I have access to CVS Pharmacy, Inc.'s People Soft software program.
  - 3. People Soft is a software program containing payroll information.
  - 4. I used People Soft to review the hourly compensation of Plaintiff Antoine B. Sharp.
- 5. As of the date of Plaintiff's filing of his Amended Complaint on December 10, 2021, Plaintiff was earning \$13.00 an hour during his employment with Missouri CVS Pharmacy, L.L.C.

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746, I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed this 7th day of January, 2022.

<u>B.J. Carbajal</u> BENJAMIN CARBAJAL

## 

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON NEXT PAGE OF THIS FORM.)

I. (a) PLAINTIFFS	ocket sheet. (SEE INSTRUC	TIONS ON NEXT PAGE OF	F THIS FORM.) <b>DEFENDANTS</b>	3	
i. (a) TLAINTIFFS					
Antoine B. Sharp			CVS Health So	olutions, LLC	
( )		t. Louis County	County of Residence		Providence County,
(E.	XCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CA	ISES)	NOTE: IN LAND C	(IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONDEMNATION CASES, USE T T OF LAND INVOLVED.	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
(c) Attorneys (Firm Name,	Address, and Telephone Numbe	r)	Attorneys (If Known)  Joseph M. Wie		
CVS Health Sol	utions, LLC		Benjamin R. M	arble	
II. BASIS OF JURISD	ICTION (Place an "X" in	One Box Only)	III. CITIZENSHIP OF P  (For Diversity Cases Only)	RINCIPAL PARTIES	(Place an "X" in One Box for Plaintiff and One Box for Defendant)
1 U.S. Government Plaintiff	3 Federal Question (U.S. Government)	Not a Party)	P	PTF DEF    I   Incorporated or Prof Business In Control   Control	PTF DEF rincipal Place 4 4
2 U.S. Government Defendant	<b>X</b> 4 Diversity (Indicate Citizensh.)	ip of Parties in Item III)	_	2 X 2 Incorporated and of Business In A	
			Citizen or Subject of a Foreign Country	3 Foreign Nation	6 6
IV. NATURE OF SUIT				Click here for: Nature of S BANKRUPTCY	
CONTRACT  110 Insurance	PERSONAL INJURY	RTS PERSONAL INJURY	FORFEITURE/PENALTY  625 Drug Related Seizure	422 Appeal 28 USC 158	OTHER STATUTES  375 False Claims Act
120 Marine   130 Miller Act   140 Negotiable Instrument   150 Recovery of Overpayment & Enforcement of Judgmen   151 Medicare Act   152 Recovery of Defaulted Student Loans (Excludes Veterans)   153 Recovery of Overpayment of Veteran's Benefits   160 Stockholders' Suits   190 Other Contract   195 Contract Product Liability   196 Franchise	310 Airplane 315 Airplane Product Liability 320 Assault, Libel & t Slander 330 Federal Employers' Liability 340 Marine 345 Marine Product Liability 350 Motor Vehicle 355 Motor Vehicle Product Liability 360 Other Personal Injury 362 Personal Injury - Medical Malpractice CIVIL RIGHTS 440 Other Civil Rights 441 Voting X 442 Employment 443 Housing/ Accommodations 445 Amer. w/Disabilities -	365 Personal Injury - Product Liability 367 Health Care/ Pharmaceutical Personal Injury Product Liability 368 Asbestos Personal Injury Product Liability 368 Asbestos Personal Injury Product Liability PERSONAL PROPERT 370 Other Fraud 371 Truth in Lending 380 Other Personal Property Damage 385 Property Damage Product Liability  PRISONER PETITION Habeas Corpus: 463 Alien Detainee 510 Motions to Vacate Sentence 530 General 535 Death Penalty	710 Fair Labor Standards Act 720 Labor/Management Relations 740 Railway Labor Act 751 Family and Medical Leave Act	423 Withdrawal 28 USC 157  INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS  820 Copyrights 830 Patent 835 Patent - Abbreviated New Drug Application 840 Trademark 880 Defend Trade Secrets Act of 2016  SOCIAL SECURITY  861 HIA (1395ff) 862 Black Lung (923) 863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g)) 864 SSID Title XVI 865 RSI (405(g))  FEDERAL TAX SUITS  870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff or Defendant) 871 IRS—Third Party 26 USC 7609	376 Qui Tam (31 USC 3729(a))  400 State Reapportionment 410 Antitrust 430 Banks and Banking 450 Commerce 460 Deportation 470 Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations 480 Consumer Credit (15 USC 1681 or 1692) 485 Telephone Consumer Protection Act 490 Cable/Sat TV 850 Securities/Commodities/ Exchange 890 Other Statutory Actions 891 Agricultural Acts 893 Environmental Matters 895 Freedom of Information Act 896 Arbitration 899 Administrative Procedure Act/Review or Appeal of
V. ODICIN O	Employment  446 Amer. w/Disabilities - Other  448 Education	Other: 540 Mandamus & Other 550 Civil Rights 555 Prison Condition 560 Civil Detainee - Conditions of Confinement	462 Naturalization Applicatio 465 Other Immigration Actions	n	Agency Decision 950 Constitutionality of State Statutes
	moved from 3	Appellate Court	Reopened Anothe (specific	• /	
VI. CAUSE OF ACTIO	ON   28 U.S.C. 1332, 1441,   Brief description of ca	1446 use:	e filing (Do not cite jurisdictional state)  violation of the Missouri Human Rig		s of different states and the amoun
VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT:		IS A CLASS ACTION		- :	if demanded in complaint:
VIII. RELATED CASS	E(S) (See instructions):	JUDGE		DOCKET NUMBER	
DATE 4/7/0000		SIGNATURE OF ATT			
1/7/2022 FOR OFFICE USE ONLY		Joseph M. Wientge, J	л.		
	MOUNT	APPLYING IFP	JUDGE	MAG. JU	DGE

#### INSTRUCTIONS FOR ATTORNEYS COMPLETING CIVIL COVER SHEET FORM JS 44

Authority For Civil Cover Sheet

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replaces nor supplements the filings and service of pleading or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. Consequently, a civil cover sheet is submitted to the Clerk of Court for each civil complaint filed. The attorney filing a case should complete the form as follows:

- **I.(a) Plaintiffs-Defendants.** Enter names (last, first, middle initial) of plaintiff and defendant. If the plaintiff or defendant is a government agency, use only the full name or standard abbreviations. If the plaintiff or defendant is an official within a government agency, identify first the agency and then the official, giving both name and title.
- (b) County of Residence. For each civil case filed, except U.S. plaintiff cases, enter the name of the county where the first listed plaintiff resides at the time of filing. In U.S. plaintiff cases, enter the name of the county in which the first listed defendant resides at the time of filing. (NOTE: In land condemnation cases, the county of residence of the "defendant" is the location of the tract of land involved.)
- (c) Attorneys. Enter the firm name, address, telephone number, and attorney of record. If there are several attorneys, list them on an attachment, noting in this section "(see attachment)".
- II. Jurisdiction. The basis of jurisdiction is set forth under Rule 8(a), F.R.Cv.P., which requires that jurisdictions be shown in pleadings. Place an "X" in one of the boxes. If there is more than one basis of jurisdiction, precedence is given in the order shown below.

  United States plaintiff. (1) Jurisdiction based on 28 U.S.C. 1345 and 1348. Suits by agencies and officers of the United States are included here. United States defendant. (2) When the plaintiff is suing the United States, its officers or agencies, place an "X" in this box. Federal question. (3) This refers to suits under 28 U.S.C. 1331, where jurisdiction arises under the Constitution of the United States, an amendment to the Constitution, an act of Congress or a treaty of the United States. In cases where the U.S. is a party, the U.S. plaintiff or defendant code takes precedence, and box 1 or 2 should be marked.

  Diversity of citizenship. (4) This refers to suits under 28 U.S.C. 1332, where parties are citizens of different states. When Box 4 is checked, the citizenship of the different parties must be checked. (See Section III below; NOTE: federal question actions take precedence over diversity cases.)
- III. Residence (citizenship) of Principal Parties. This section of the JS 44 is to be completed if diversity of citizenship was indicated above. Mark this section for each principal party.
- IV. Nature of Suit. Place an "X" in the appropriate box. If there are multiple nature of suit codes associated with the case, pick the nature of suit code that is most applicable. Click here for: Nature of Suit Code Descriptions.
- V. Origin. Place an "X" in one of the seven boxes.
  - Original Proceedings. (1) Cases which originate in the United States district courts.

Removed from State Court. (2) Proceedings initiated in state courts may be removed to the district courts under Title 28 U.S.C., Section 1441. Remanded from Appellate Court. (3) Check this box for cases remanded to the district court for further action. Use the date of remand as the filing date.

Reinstated or Reopened. (4) Check this box for cases reinstated or reopened in the district court. Use the reopening date as the filing date. Transferred from Another District. (5) For cases transferred under Title 28 U.S.C. Section 1404(a). Do not use this for within district transfers or multidistrict litigation transfers.

Multidistrict Litigation – Transfer. (6) Check this box when a multidistrict case is transferred into the district under authority of Title 28 U.S.C. Section 1407.

Multidistrict Litigation – Direct File. (8) Check this box when a multidistrict case is filed in the same district as the Master MDL docket. **PLEASE NOTE THAT THERE IS NOT AN ORIGIN CODE 7.** Origin Code 7 was used for historical records and is no longer relevant due to changes in statute.

- VI. Cause of Action. Report the civil statute directly related to the cause of action and give a brief description of the cause. **Do not cite jurisdictional statutes unless diversity.** Example: U.S. Civil Statute: 47 USC 553 Brief Description: Unauthorized reception of cable service.
- VII. Requested in Complaint. Class Action. Place an "X" in this box if you are filing a class action under Rule 23, F.R.Cv.P.

  Demand. In this space enter the actual dollar amount being demanded or indicate other demand, such as a preliminary injunction.

  Jury Demand. Check the appropriate box to indicate whether or not a jury is being demanded.
- VIII. Related Cases. This section of the JS 44 is used to reference related pending cases, if any. If there are related pending cases, insert the docket numbers and the corresponding judge names for such cases.

Date and Attorney Signature. Date and sign the civil cover sheet.

## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

Anto	ine B. Sharp	)	
CVS LLC	Plaintiff, v. Health Solutions, , Defendant,	) ) Case No. ) ) )	
	ORIGINAL FILING FORM		
THIS FORM MUST BE COMPLETED AND VERIFIED BY THE FILING PARTY WHEN INITIATING A NEW CASE.			
	THIS SAME CAUSE, OR A SUBSTANTIALLY EQUIVALENT COMPLAINT, WAS REVIOUSLY FILED IN THIS COURT AS CASE NUMBER  ND ASSIGNED TO THE HONORABLE JUDGE		
[ P	THIS CAUSE IS RELATED, BUT IS NOT SUBSTANTIALLY EQUIVALENT TO ANY REVIOUSLY FILED COMPLAINT. THE RELATED CASE NUMBER IS AND		
Т	THAT CASE WAS ASSIGNED TO THE HONORABL	E	
[2	THEREFORE, BE OPENED AS AN ORIGINAL PROC NEITHER THIS SAME CAUSE, NOR A SUB COMPLAINT, HAS BEEN PREVIOUSLY FILED IN T MAY BE OPENED AS AN ORIGINAL PROCEEDING	STANTIALLY EQUIVALENT	RE
The undersigned affirms that the information provided above is true and correct.			
Γ	Date: 01/07/2022	seph M. Wientge, Jr. Signature of Filing Party	_